

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

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APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 020101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, ICRC, VN, VS, POIP, WMO, NO

SUBJECT: PRG AND LOW CONFERENCE

REF: A. COPENHAGEN 0148 (NOTAL)

B. OSLO 0340 (NOTAL)

C. VIENNA 0643 (NOTAL)

D. LONDON 1287 (NOTAL)

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LONDON FOR ALDRICH

1. IO ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE CALLED IN NORWEGIAN MINISTER-COUNSELOR SVERRE AND DANISH AMBASSADOR BARTELS SEPARATELY JANUARY 28 TO REQUEST NORWEGIAN AND DANISH SUPPORT IN OPPOSING PRG PARTICIPATION IN SECOND SESSION OF LOW CONFERENCE.

2. BLAKE STRESSED THAT PRG ISSUE DECIDED AT FIRST LOW SESSION, AND THAT ATTEMPTS TO REINTRODUCE MATTER TANTA-MOUNT TO REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION REQUIRING TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR APPROVAL UNDER RULE 32 OF CONFERENCE PROCEDURES. HE SAID IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF CONFERENCE WERE DISTRACTED FROM ITS IMPORTANT WORK BY A QUESTION WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED.

3. BLAKE OUTLINED USG POSITION ON PRG, INCLUDING ITS LACK OF ATTRIBUTES OF STATE, AND SAID WE SEE NO RPT NO VALID ARGUMENTS FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. INDEED, GIVEN CURRENT PRG/NVN ATTACKS ON TERRITORY LONG HELD BY RVN IN VIOLATION OF PARIS PEACE AGREEMENTS, IT NOW PARTICULARLY INAPPROPRIATE TO REOPEN PRG ISSUE AT LOW CONFERENCE. TO DO SO WOULD BE A GREAT MISTAKE, A SEEMING REWARD FOR AGGRESSION.

4. BLAKE STATED THAT USG HAS RAISED THIS MATTER WITH NORWEGIAN AND DANISH GOVERNMENTS, AND HAD IMPRESSION BOTH INCLINED TO ABSTAIN, AS AT FIRST SESSION. QUESTION IS OF HIGH IMPORTANCE TO USG, AND HE STRONGLY URGED GON ANDGOS SUPPORT TO UPHOLD INVOCATION OF RULE 32, IF MADE, AND TO OPPOSE PRG PARTICIPATION. HE COMMENTED THAT WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT SWEDISH FONMIN ANDERSON'S RECENT STATEMENT ON VIETNAM, WHICH WE CONSIDER SLANTED AND DISTORTED.

5. SVERRE SAID HE KNEW GON UNDERSTOOD USG CONCERN AND WOULD REPORT OUR VIEWS TO OSLO IMMEDIATELY. HE ASKED WHAT OUTCOME WAS AT FIRST SESSION. BLAKE REPLIED IT WAS EXTREMELY CLOSE (PRG BID DEFEATED BY ONE VOTE). OUTCOME THIS YEAR WOULD ALSO BE CLOSE IN ANY VOTE REQUIRING SIMPLE CONFIDENTIAL

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MAJORITY; WE HAVE GOOD PROSPECTS TO DEFEAT BID BUT NEED GON SUPPORT.

6. DANISH AMBASSADOR BARTELS CLEARLY AWARE OF USG POSITION AND STATED HE SENT COPENHAGEN URGENT CABLE STRONGLY RECOMMENDING US VIEWS NOT ONLY BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BUT THAT THEY PREVAIL. BARTELS STRESSED GOD POSITION UN-CHANGED REGARDING ANY RECOGNITION OF PRG AS STATE. HE

BELIEVES USG POSITION WELL-FOUNDED PROCEDURALLY AND SUBSTANTIVELY. BARTELS ASSURED US GOD WOULD SUPPORT U.S. PROCEDURALLY. IF PROCEDURAL VOTE FAILS, HOWEVER, BARTELS COULD NOT ASSURE US OF ANYTHING STRONGER THAN ABSTENTION.

7. FOR COPENHAGEN AND OSLO: EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED SOONEST APPROACH MFA, PREFERABLY AT LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTER;

DRAW ON PARAS 1-4 ABOVE AND AGAIN UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE USG TACHS TO THIS ISSUE AND TO GON AND GOD SUPPORT ON IT.

8. FOR CANBERRA: YOU ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE SIMILAR STRONG DEMARCHE ALONG LINES OUTLINED ABOVE AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL AND REPORT RESULTS SOONEST.

9. FOR VIENNA: YOU SHOULD TAKE EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW UP ON YOUR JANUARY 24 APPROACH TO BIELKA TO FIRM UP AUSTRIAN SUPPORT ON ANY PROCEDURAL VOTES. KISSINGER

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